



NUTMEG NOTES

NUTMEG CHAPTER – TROUT UNLIMITED

P.O. BOX 1594, FAIRFIELD, CT 06825

www.NutmegTU.org

Tuesday, 15 February 2005

Mark Torello

Steelhead & Brown Trout in Western NY

7:30 P.M.

FAYERWEATHER YACHT CLUB

BLACK ROCK, CT

Cash Bar

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Greetings Nutmeggers,

Our Chapter Meeting on 18 January, Nutmegger Bob Knoebel transported us from a wintry CT night to the Emerald Isle of Ireland and regaled us with his experiences fishing for browns and salmon. The many in attendance who braved the cold weather were treated to not only Bob's warm narrative and great photography, but also some traditional Irish music to wash away the ice and snow. When in Ireland, the only thing better than the fishing are the people and culture!

At our upcoming meeting on 15 February, we will be treated to Mark Torello of the Hammonasset Chapter speaking on "Steelhead and Brown Trout Fishing in Western NY. Mark will show that one need not suffer the madness of fishing the Pulaski River in order to have fun with Steelheads! This meeting is also our annual Tag Sale. Bring your "stuff" to sell...things you may have but don't use/need and want to be rid of. Fly fishing articles only, please! Sellers keep all proceeds and doors open at 7:00 p.m.

Invite A Friend To Join TU! Last October, TU National changed our membership recruitment program. Instead of giving away a set of nymphs to every new member, the incentives were passed on to the Chapters to recruit members themselves. The incentive is two-fold: (1) New members get a one-year introductory rate of \$17.50 (1/2 price), (2) Chapters get \$15.00 of that money for their recruitment efforts. Just make sure that Chapter # 217 is included on the mail-in application or on-line, so we can get credit. There has been a 45% increase in new membership since October 2004 and rebates paid to chapters have amounted to \$47,430.00!

Saturday, 19 March 2005 is our annual Fundraising Banquet. This is our primary fundraiser and ticket info is included as the Editor's Feature insert this month. Put the date in ink on your calendars and if you cannot make it, please consider sending a donation or donating a prize. This is a fun evening with lots of give-aways! This is no longer a late night with long drawn out bucket raffles. We have engineered all of that to go very, very quickly!

Nutmeg Board of Directors meet the 2nd Tuesday of every month and conducts the business portion of the Chapter meetings and programs. These meetings are open to all members and we encourage all interested to visit a Board meeting. Please e-mail me if you are interested and I will send directions and details.

Calendar of Events – Please review for all upcoming events and also read this month's Editor's Feature which includes the Fundraising Ticket information.

Tight Lines!

Bill Blaufuss

NUTMEG OFFICERS

President: Bill Blaufuss...212-672-1310; president@nutmegtu.org
 Vice President: Bucky Reed; vicepres@nutmegtu.org
 Program Chairman: Bob Knoebel; flyrodbob@aol.com
 Secretary: Ken Balog; secretary@nutmegtu.org
 Treasurer: Pete Peterson; treasurer@nutmegtu.org
 Conservation: Mike Piquette; conservation@nutmegtu.org
 Newsletter: John Mikstay; newsletter@nutmegtu.org ; mangrovefly@optonline.net
 Membership: David Moxhay; membership@nutmegtu.org
 Banquet Chairman: Ben Chin; banquet-chair@nutmegtu.org
 Banquet Prizes: Bob Eck; bnqt-prizes@nutmegtu.org
 Holiday Raffle: Glen Gammill; h-raffle@nutmegtu.org
 Website: Gian-Andrea "Johu" Morresi...203-330-8685; webmaster@nutmegtu.org
Board Members: Bill Field, Bob Knoebel, Red Nichols, Marty Vasas
 Trout Unlimited Membership Service - 800-834-2419 or email at trout@tu.org

Board of Directors Meeting Schedule

7:30 PM – 9:00 PM
 September 28, 2004
 October 12, 2004
 November 9, 2004
 December 14, 2004
 January 25, 2005
 February 8, 2005
 March 8, 2005
 April 12, 2005
 May 10, 2005


All members are welcome to attend. Call Bill Blaufuss at 212-672-1310 days, or 203-227-9085 evenings, for directions.

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Christopher Usher
 Director

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 (800) 243-4260
 FAX (203) 255-9340
 e-mail: service@greenwichfinearts.com
www.greenwichworkshop.com



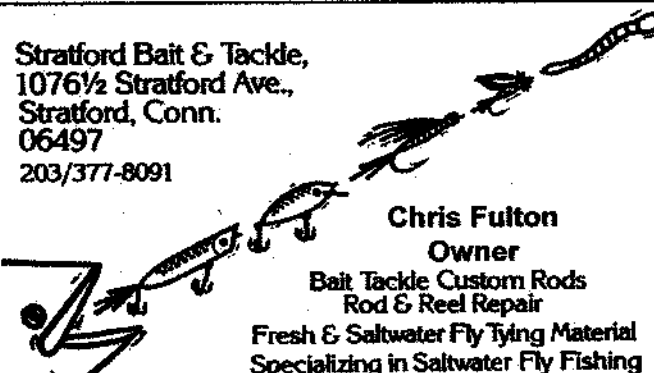
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Capt. Paul Koopmann
captkoop@saltyflies.com

Conservation News

The Easton Planning and Zoning Commission has denied the zone change required to build the proposed 44-unit age-restricted housing development on 29 acres along the Mill River WTMA. The developer now plans to submit an application for an "affordable" housing project, which would mean a much denser development. If the project meets state-defined "affordable" criteria, local zoning regulations (currently 3 acres/unit) do not apply. The developer feels that he can fit 75 units (double occupancy) on the property if an on-site sewage treatment plant is used, and - if he can hook up to Bridgeport's sewer system - MANY more units. This, of course, could be a disaster for the fragile wild trout fishery in the Mill River. The good news is that the town of Easton is pursuing purchasing the property either by eminent domain or through negotiations with the developer. The Nutmeg chapter has generously pledged \$20,000 for the purchase if the property remains unimproved. The Aspetuck Land Trust has pledged \$100,000. This issue will be in the news for some time to come. See the chapter website (www.nutmegt.org <<http://www.nutmegt.org/>>) for a sampling of recent newspaper articles. The recent denial of rate increases for Aquarion has put the opening of streams on former Aquarion lands on hold. A team comprised of the DEP, Nature Conservancy and Aquarion manages the state-purchased lands. The state Health Department has final say on activities proposed for these watershed lands. The DEP Fisheries Division continues to work on opening the streams to public fishing (with catch-and-release regulations). There's a possibility that some stream sections will open sometime in 2005. Former club-leased stream sections such as the Mill River just below the Easton Reservoir and a section above the reservoir, as well as a section of the Saugatuck River just above the Saugatuck Reservoir, are likely candidates for 2005.

As reported by Mike Piquette for the newsletter

UPCOMING EVENTS

- February 2; Ground Hog Day (Candlemas)
- February 7; Croton Watershed Chapter offers its annual fly fishing course - www.crotonwatershedtu.org
- February 8; Chapter BOD Meeting - 7:30 p.m.
- February 9; Fly-Tying Class at Pete Peterson's
- February 12; Woolley Buggers' meeting - Ice Fishing with Bob Knoebel - www.westportymca.org
- February 12; Lincoln's Birthday
- February 14; St. Valentine's Day
- February 15; Chapter Meeting - Mark Torello - Speaker
- February 21; Presidents' Day
- February 22; Washington's Birthday
- March 17; St. Patrick's Day
- March 19; Nutmeg Chapter Fundraising Dinner
- March 20; Vernal Equinox (First Day of Spring)

**** PLEASE READ ****

EDITOR'S CORNER...

**** PLEASE READ ****

HAPPY FEBRUARY - JUST A FEW NOTES AND REQUESTS TO MEMBERSHIP ...

NOTE: "CASTING FOR RECOVERY" IS SEEKING DONATED FLIES TO BE USED BY LADIES WHO ARE GOING THROUGH CFR THERAPY. COME EARLY TO THE MONTHLY MEETING AND LEARN ONE OF THE 9 VARIOUS PATTERNS SOUGHT BY CFR. BRING YOUR TIED FLIES TO THE NEXT MONTHLY CHAPTER MEETING AS A DONATION TO CFR. IT'S THAT SIMPLE.

NOTE: THE EDITOR'S FEATURE THIS MONTH IS THE FUNDRAISING DINNER SIGN-UP SHEET. HOPE YOU CAN ATTEND.

I STILL HAVE NOT RECEIVED ANY INPUT FROM MEMBERS ABOUT SPECIAL FEATURES FOR THE NEWSLETTER, EXCEPT THE FLY TYING CLASS. PLEASE DON'T WORRY ABOUT WRITING SOMETHING UP. I WILL TAKE CARE OF THAT. I AM LOOKING SIMPLY FOR SOME SUGGESTIONS. PLEASE GET INVOLVED AS THIS IS YOUR NEWSLETTER. THANKS...JM

MEETING & SPEAKER SCHEDULE

**NUTMEG MEETINGS: 3RD TUESDAY AT 7:30 PM
SEPTEMBER – APRIL AT THE FAYERWEATHER YACHT CLUB**

February 15, 2005	Mark Torello: <i>Steelhead & Brown Trout Fishing In Western New York</i>
March 15, 2005	Sandy MacGregor: <i>Fly fishing the rivers and lakes Of Western Maine</i>
April 19, 2005	Jeff Passante: <i>A Year in the Life of a Fisherman</i>
May 17, 2005	TBD

TROUT UNLIMITED MISSION:

**TO CONSERVE, PROTECT AND
RESTORE NORTH AMERICA'S
COLDWATER FISHERIES AND
THEIR WATERSHEDS**

**Directions to Fayerweather Yacht Club
Brewster Street, Black Rock**

I-95 (N or S) to Exit 24. South on Black Rock Tpke, past Sym's and BJ's Wholesale Club, to Fairfield Avenue. (Black Rock Tpke becomes Brewster) Go across Fairfield Avenue and from that point, go 0.3 miles to a stop sign at a flagpole. At the stop sign, Brewster Street takes a 90-degree turn to the left. Stay on Brewster Street and go another 0.3 miles (just past "Port 5") to the Fayerweather Yacht Club. Park on either side of the road or in the Yacht Club lot in front of the new condos.